

REMARKS

Section 112, First Paragraph Rejection

Claims 1 and 51 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The Office Action states that the claims contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way to reasonably convey the application had possession of the invention. In particular, the Office Action indicated that the added features "without electrically connecting to the probe contacts" and that "support means contacts the second side of the substrate" are not described in the specification. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The language "support means positioned ... without electrically contacting probe contacts" is described beginning in paragraph 0045 of Applicants' specification, referencing Fig. 3, where it states, "To prevent electrical contact between the spheres 76 and 78 and pads of the LGA on the space transformer substrate 45A, routing of lines 46A is modified in the space transformer 34A relative to Fig. 2 so that no pads are provided in the area where the two added spheres 76 and 78 make contact." Electrical connection to probes 16 is provided in space transformer 34A through the pads and interconnect lines 46A (none of which contact the spheres 76 and 78).

The fact that spheres 76 and 78 provide support means is described in paragraph 0044, where it states that "additional support is provided using additional support pins 72 and 74 and spheres 76 and 78 (likely made of brass) contacting near the center of the space transformer substrate 45A."

The additional claim language "support means contacts the second side of the substrate" is supported since the probes 16 contact a first side of the space transformer substrate 34A, while the support spheres 76 and 78 contact the second side of space transformer substrate 34A, as shown in Fig. 3.

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